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SENATOR PREISTER: So that money then sits there waiting to be used accruing the interest and would the interest be comparable that we are earning in Washington to what we would be earning here on the 20 percent of this fund that we kept in Nebraska?

SENATOR HILLMAN: Senator Preister, I can't answer you as to what the interest rate is that the federal government is using. Our...the SUIT that we would have here would be invested by the state investment officer and the estimate is what we would be getting is about 5 percent.

SENATOR PREISTER: Okay, thank you very much, Senator Hillman, thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President, Mr. Speaker. I would like to also ask a question of Senator Hillman if I might.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Hillman.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Hillman, in looking at some of the opposition testimony, I noted that there is an indication of an increase in the weekly rates for the maximum benefits that would be paid out to people under that employment insurance, from the insurance trust fund. Could you tell me whether, in fact, if that happens and there is more money being spent out than would be gathered in if it would result perhaps in an increase in the amount of contributions that the employers have to make in order to keep the fund solvent?

SENATOR HILLMAN: The increase, of course, in benefits can affect the employer, perhaps, contribution, but this particular bill would not affect that either way. The contributions would currently continue to be made on...with the same formula that it is right now and the benefits, of course, are set in statute and those benefits would be paid out as needed. The increase in benefits has no increase in premiums. This bill would not affect either one of those.

SENATOR VRTISKA: To clarify that a little bit, if, in fact, and we do raise the...I'm trying to understand if we do raise the benefits that we pay out which would take more money out of the